

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A utility receptacle assembly comprising:

a) a base member adapted to be placed within an opening in a work surface, the base member defining a ~~central~~ recess;

b) a receptacle member pivotally connected to the base member within the ~~central~~ recess and movable between an open position and a closed position, the receptacle member including at least one receptacle opening adopted to receive a receptacle therein; and

c) a biasing member engaged between the receptacle member and the base member to bias the receptacle member to the open position; and

d) a latch arrangement for selectively maintaining the receptacle member in the closed position, wherein the latch arrangement includes a stop member on one of the base member and the receptacle member, and a movable latch member that is slidably mounted for lateral movement on the other of the base member and the receptacle member, wherein the latch member is laterally movable between a latching position in which the latch member is engaged with the stop member to maintain the receptacle member in the closed position, and a release position in which the latch member is disengaged from the stop member to enable movement of the receptacle member between the open and closed positions, and wherein the latch member includes a wedge member that is configured and arranged to engage the stop member and to move the latch member laterally from the latching position to the release position upon inward movement of the receptacle member from the closed position to enable the receptacle member to move outwardly to the open position under the influence of the biasing member.

2. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 1 wherein the biasing member comprises at least one torsion spring engaged between the receptacle member and the base member.
3. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 2 wherein the at least one torsion spring is mounted to a pivot pin rotatably secured to the base member and engaged with the receptacle member.
4. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 3 wherein the at least one torsion spring is mounted at least partially around the pivot pin.
5. (Currently Amended) The utility receptacle assembly of claim ~~4~~13 further comprising a locking mechanism disposed on the receptacle member and engageable with the base member.
6. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 5 wherein the locking mechanism comprises a latch disposed on the receptacle member.
7. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 6 wherein the latch is slidably secured to the receptacle member.
8. (Currently Amended) The utility receptacle assembly of claim ~~6~~1 wherein the latch member includes a recess defining a notch ~~that is selectively engageable with a stop formed on the base member~~within which the stop member is engaged when the latch member is in the latching position.
9. (Currently Amended) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 8 wherein the ~~recess defines a wedge aligned with the notch that is used to direct the stop into and out of the notch~~member is disposed within the recess in the latch member.

10. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 1 further comprising a movement limiting assembly operably connected between the receptacle member and the base member and configured to limit the movement of the receptacle member with respect to the base member.

11. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 10 wherein the movement limiting assembly includes at least one tab disposed on one of the receptacle member or the base member and at least one flange disposed on the other of the receptacle member or the base member and engageable with the at least one tab.

12. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 1 further comprising a movement controlling assembly connected between the receptacle member and the base member and operable to limit the speed of movement of the receptacle member with respect to the base member.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The utility receptacle assembly of claim 12~~ A utility receptacle assembly comprising:

a) a base member adapted to be placed within an opening in a work surface, the base member defining a central recess;

5 b) a receptacle member pivotally connected to the base member within the central recess and movable between an open position and a closed position, the receptacle member including at least one receptacle opening adopted to receive a receptacle therein;

10 c) a biasing member engaged between the receptacle member and the base member to bias the receptacle member to the open position; and

15 d) a movement controlling assembly connected between the receptacle member and the base member and operable to limit the speed of movement of the receptacle member with respect to the base member, wherein the movement controlling assembly includes a damping member mounted to the receptacle member and engaged with the base.

14. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 13 wherein the damping member is a rotatable gear that is engaged with a toothed rail disposed on the base member.

15. (Currently Amended) A utility receptacle assembly for a work surface, the assembly comprising:

a) a base member adapted to be placed within an opening in a work surface, the base member including at least one upwardly facing stationary receptacle aperture
5 positioned on one side of a central recess;

b) a movable receptacle member pivotally connected to the base member and disposed within the central recess, the movable receptacle member including at least one receptacle opening, wherein the movable receptacle member is pivotable relative to the base member for movement between an open position in which the at least one
10 receptacle is exposed and a closed position in which the at least one receptacle is concealed, wherein the movable receptacle member and the base member are configured such that the upwardly facing stationary receptacle of the base member and the at least one receptacle of the movable receptacle member are laterally offset from each other;

c) a biasing member disposed on the receptacle member and engaged with the base member to bias the receptacle member at least partially outwardly from the base member toward the open position; and

d) a movement controlling mechanism engaged between cover member carried by the receptacle member and the base member to control the movement of the
20 receptacle member relative to the base member in response to the bias of the biasing member, wherein the cover member extends laterally from the receptacle member and is configured to overlie and conceal the upwardly facing stationary receptacle of the base member when the movable receptacle member is in the closed position.

16. (Currently Amended) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 15 further comprising a locking latch member disposed on one of the base member and the receptacle member and a stop member disposed on the other of the base member and the receptacle member,

wherein the stop member is selectively engageable with the locking-latch member and
5 disposed on the other of the base member or the receptacle member to selectively maintain
the receptacle member in the closed position.

17. (Currently Amended) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 15 wherein the receptacle member comprises:

- a) a receptacle portion positioned within the base member, wherein the;
- b) ~~—a cover portion member is secured to the receptacle portion and positioned~~
5 ~~over the base member;~~ and
- b)e) —at least one pivot pin secured between the receptacle portion and the cover
portion member and rotatably engaged with the base member.

18. (Original) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 17 wherein the biasing member is mounted to the at least one pivot pin.

19. (Currently Amended) The utility receptacle assembly of claim 15 further comprising a power cord extending through a cord opening in the base member and operably connected to ~~at least one receptacle disposed in the at least one receptacle opening~~ the upwardly facing stationary receptacle.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for moving a utility receptacle from a concealed position to an exposed position, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a utility receptacle assembly including a base member positioned within an opening in the work surface, a receptacle member pivotally secured to the
5 base member and including at least one receptacle thereon, a biasing member secured to the receptacle member and engaged with the base member, and a locking mechanism engaged between the receptacle member and the base member;
- b) disengaging the locking mechanism; and
- c) allowing the biasing member to move the receptacle member out of the base
10 member to expose the at least one receptacle; and

d) limiting the speed of movement of the receptacle member with respect to the base member by operation of a damping member mounted to the receptacle member and engaged with the base member.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the step of disengaging the locking mechanism comprises:

- a) pressing the receptacle member towards the base member; and
- b) disengaging a stop on the base member from a latch on the receptacle member.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the step of disengaging the stop from the latch comprises sliding the latch to enable the stop to move out of a recess on the latch.

23. (Currently Canceled)

24. (Currently Canceled)

25. The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of reengaging the locking mechanism after allowing the biasing member to move the receptacle member out of the base member.